

- f) Infiltrations of all organizations whenever possible in order to further stimulate action.
- g) At all times look around for prospective candidates for the c.p.
- h) Apply the pressure upon candidates running for political office by getting them to endorse such proposals.
- i) Playing one political party against the other by stressing the efforts of one and the weakness of the other.
- k) Using such tactics which would defeat the candidacy of anti communist congressmen by playing up their lack of interest for the legislation passed or to be passed.
- l) Check into their vote records and utilize it in order to defeat them.

The above tactics are some of which the c.p. applies in order to further achieve its aims and seemly appear to be a party fighting for the people. As a result, the c.p. expressing itself openly and infiltrating any and all organizations, creating c.p. front organizations, its specific aims were that of isolating the McCarthyites and defeating them, create coalition of labor and liberal forces, thus getting involved in such and all activities, it would be in the mainstream organizations of the peoples. By considerable thought, deliberate planning and persistence, the c. p. has developed new approaches which have taken them away from the isolation of the masses, and seemly become a part of them. In this connection, the c.p. has made great effort to make use of past, current and future legislation as a means of bringing about and furthering its aims in order to achieve its goal.

*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC (ATTN: SA. JAMES W. SULLIVAN)

DATE: 1/2/58

b6  
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b7D

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: CP YOUTH MAT. EPS (100-20781)

On 12/12/57, ARMANDO PERHA, SOI, submitted a written report on CP Youth the original of which is being placed in PERHA'S file-  
[REDACTED]

This report is being submitted for intelligence purposes only and is therefore not being channelized as it contains information previously given by PERHA and which was channelized when originally obtained.

JSD/hx

cc: 100-20781  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FILED

JAN 2 1958

FBI - NEW YORK

[Signature]

YOUTH.

The New England District Committee of the Communist Party was long prepared itself for the future. A Youth Commission has functioned for the purpose of cultivating its youth whom are to become the potential party leaders, cadres and colonizers in the future.

John Russo, in the latter part of 1955 was delegated to represent Youth at the New England District Committee meetings for the purpose of obtaining directives from the party leadership and giving reports of the progress being made with the Youth.

Joanne Lipshires, was for some time the head of the Youth Commission in the district. As such, her responsibilities were that of conducting and or setting up classes in basic fundamental. This being around such issues as Peace, Socialism vs. Capitalism, development of the Negro problem, civil rights, etc.

Ann White was responsible for Rhode Island during the time she was there and she closely co-ordinated her activities in the youth field with the section committee of her area.

Section Organizers were held to be responsible to push thru a program for the youth in their areas with the supervision of the district and had to give constant reports on such progress.

A youth booklet intitled "The Challenge" was to be brought into a broad distribution within the youth field and all section organizers were held to aid in the promotion of it.

The C.P. endeavoured to undertake a two fold leadership with its youth:

- 1) to watch closely the political and personal life of each and every one of its youth members, so as to encourage the wedding of a member to an identical type of person politically speaking. If not successful then it would take great pains to indoctrinate the future spouse.
- 2) be on the lookout for prospective colonizers, cadres, etc., within the youth group which would then give special attention to such a candidate.

Trade unions and industry infiltration would be one of the key segments which the youth would play a role in, under direct supervision of the district leadership.

Legitimate organizations, such as the NAACP, EMRS, etc. are to become a part in the life of the youth's activity. Exposure would be less likely and such an organization would become a screen from which the youth could work from. At the same time, by devoting his attention to non-political organizations the youth must set himself to the task of influencing and if at all possible, capture the leadership of such groups.

By promoting broad youth conferences, it will be able to develop and also sharpen issues which otherwise would not have had its existence.

The need of the youth to work in mass organizations would not be to destroy or weaken them, but rather, to work to transform them into centers of united front struggle.

*Robert La Pierre*

SAC, BOSTON (100-16191)  
(Att: [redacted])

January 6, 1958

SA [redacted]

b6  
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b7E

COMMUNIST PARTY, USA -  
FUNDS  
IS-C

Re memos of SA [redacted] dated June 27  
and September 3, 1957 at Boston.

On December 12, 1957, ARMANDO PENHA, Source of  
Information, advised that he had no information with regard  
to Communist Party Funds in the New Bedford, Massachusetts  
area. (It is pointed out that PENHA, according to another  
Boston informant, was formally expelled from the Communist  
Party in August, 1956. Since that time, his contact with  
the Communist Party in the New Bedford area has been almost  
solely with OLGA GARCZYNSKI and from contacts that he has  
had with GARCZYNSKI in the past six months, it is apparent  
that GARCZYNSKI has no contact with Communist Party leaders  
in Massachusetts).

On December 20, 1957, [redacted] advised that he  
had no information concerning Communist Party Funds in  
Fall River, Massachusetts. At the present time, according  
to this informant, the only Communist Party members who  
are active at all in Fall River are [redacted]  
and the informant. According to [redacted] they have had no  
local meetings and their Communist Party activity has been  
confined to attendance at meetings in Boston during the past  
year when the Communist Party leadership has had occasion to  
raise funds for the Smith Act Defendants. [redacted] stated  
that so far as he knows, the Fall River members are not paying  
dues as such at the present time.

JED/bmh

(3)

1 - 100-16191

1 - [redacted]

1 - [redacted] (ARMANDO PENHA)

[redacted]

*[Handwritten signature]*

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OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: SAC, BOSTON (100-20779)  
Att: SA [REDACTED]

FROM: SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY ORGANIZATION  
FALL RIVER - NEW BEDFORD AREA

January 7, 1958

Re memo of SA [REDACTED] dated November 26, 1957.

On December 12, 1957, ARMANDO PENHA, Source of Information (Formerly [REDACTED]) was contacted to ascertain what, in his opinion, constituted the Communist Party Organization in the New Bedford, Massachusetts area at the present time. PENHA stated that based upon his former experience as a member of the party in this area from 1950 to 1956 as well as Section Organizer from this area for a number of years, that he felt that the present organization if any in New Bedford would consist of DOUGLAS PERRY, MARY FIGUEIREDO, ROY ROGERSON, PALMEDA ROGERSON and JOHN CORDEIRO of 21 Dunbar Street, New Bedford, Massachusetts. CORDEIRO is DOUG PERRY's father-in-law. ROY ROGERSON and PALMEDA ROGERSON are husband and wife. (It is pointed out that the Boston Office learned from another symbol informant that PENHA was formally expelled from the Communist Party in August, 1956 and has had no contact with the Communist Party leaders in New England since that time)

JBD/bmh  
(12)

- 1 - 100-20779
- ① - [REDACTED] (ARMANDO PENHA)
- 1 - [REDACTED]
- 1 - 100-31934 (CP FALL RIVER - NEW BEDFORD)
- 1 - 100-24298 (DOUGLAS PERRY)
- 1 - 100-11637 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 100-17614 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 100-22487 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 100-14506 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 100-15635 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 100-17930 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 100-20778 (MEMBERSHIP)

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JAN 15 1958	
FBI - BOSTON	

BS 100-20779

On December 20, 1957, [ ] advised that the Communist Party organization in Fall River consists of [ ] and the informant.

(The above information obtained from ARMANDO PENHA on December 12, 1957 and from [ ] on December 20, 1957 has been more or less corroborated by information obtained from Informant NY2002-S\* when the New York Office furnished the Bureau information obtained from this informant on July 19, 1957 which was obtained from space used by SID STEIN, Organizational Secretary, Communist Party, USA at Communist Party Headquarters, New York City on June 21, 1957. In a report located there concerning a breakdown of the Communist Party membership in New England, beside the word New Bedford was the following "four to five people, nothing functioning" and beside the city Fall River, the words "small functioning organization, mostly old timers").



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 09-14-2010 BY 60324 uc baw/sab/lsg

SAC, BOSTON (100-26893)

January 3, 1958

Att: [REDACTED]

SA [REDACTED]

COMMUNIST PARTY STRATEGY IN INDUSTRY

ARMANDO PENHA (Source of Information - Formerly [REDACTED] in 1955 was made a member of the National Textile Commission of the Communist Party representing the New England states and as such, attended meetings of the National Textile Committee in New York in May, July and October, 1955.

At a meeting held in the Bronx, New York on May 14, 15, 1955, PENHA was given a copy of an eighteen page document concerning the textile industry which was at that time being prepared by the National Textile Committee to be put into leaflet form for distribution by the Communist Party. As all of the meetings of the National Textile Committee took place in New York City, the New York Office was origin in this matter.

By letter dated June 13, 1955, the Boston Office forwarded a letter to the Bureau and New York containing excerpts from the eighteen page document received by PENHA at the May meeting of the Textile Committee. (This is set forth in Boston File 100-26893, Serial 393).

At the time that the meeting of the National Textile Committee was held in New York, PENHA retained the eighteen page textile document because he was meeting frequently with SIDNEY LIPSHIRES, who was then the Acting New England District Organizer of the Communist Party. PENHA and LIPSHIRES were meeting frequently during 1955 and discussing changes which the New England District Committee

JED/bmh

(3)

1 - 100-26893

1 - 100-7817 (CP Infiltration)

① - [REDACTED]



BS 100-26893

of the Communist Party would propose in the eighteen page textile document before the final draft was published in leaflet form. For that reason, it was deemed inadvisable from a security standpoint, to obtain from PENHA at that time, the eighteen page textile document which he had in his possession.

On December 20, 1957, PENHA turned over to SA [redacted] the eighteen page document which he received from ROBERT HANDMAN who acted as Chairman of the National Textile Committee meeting in New York on May 14, 15, 1955 together with what was to be the final draft of the document which PENHA received from HANDMAN in October, 1955.

The Bureau and the New York Office, having been previously advised of the contents of the eighteen page textile document, these are now being placed in the Informant's file in the exhibit folder of Boston File [redacted]



STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

b6  
b7C  
b7E

TO : SAC (100-15261)

DATE: Jan. 28, 1958

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: JOHN VIEIRA  
SM - C

On 12/20/57 ARMANDO PENHA, Source of Information, advised he frequently sees Subject as the latter is coming home from work in the morning.

PENHA said Subject is working the third shift at the Wamsutta Mill in New Bedford and resides on John Street in Acushnet, Mass.

As to CP activity, PENHA had nothing to report. (PENHA was expelled in August 1956 and has been more or less out of touch with the CP since Feb. 1956.)

cc: [REDACTED]

JED:RW  
(2)

[REDACTED]

*[Handwritten signature and initials]*  
Hamer - RMB ✓

Standard Form No. 64

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OFFICE MEMORANDUM • United States Government

TO : SAC, BOSTON [REDACTED] DATE: MAR 17 1958  
(ATTENTION: SUPV. [REDACTED])  
FROM : SA [REDACTED]  
SUBJECT : MICHAEL A. RUSSO, was.  
IS - C  
Meeting of [REDACTED] with RUSSO 2/11/58.

Extreme care should be utilized in paraphrasing any material taken from this memorandum in order to safeguard the identity of the Informant.

<u>IDENTITY OF INFORMANT</u>	<u>DATE OF ACTIVITY</u>	<u>DATE RECEIVED</u>	<u>AGENT TO WHOM GIVEN</u>	<u>FILE WHERE LOCATED</u>
[REDACTED]	2/11/58	2/13/58 (orally) written report received 2/19/58.	SA [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

On February 13, 1958 [REDACTED] orally advised SA [REDACTED] that he had visited MICHAEL A. RUSSO at his home in Boston on Tuesday, February 11, 1958 and that he was preparing a written report of his visit to RUSSO.

On February 19, 1958 this Informant furnished the following written report concerning his visit to RUSSO on February 11, 1958:

"Tuesday, February 11, 1958

"By a previous arrangement I was to meet MIKE RUSSO in Boston at this home last January 18th--Saturday. Because I met with a minor accident and hurt my arm on January 14th, I called Mike on the 17th and explained why I would be unable to keep my appointment.

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	100-7817	COMINFIL TWUA
100-16160	MICHAEL A. RUSSO	100-32	JOSEPH FIGUEROA
100-26382	[REDACTED]	100-18475	[REDACTED]
100-15635	[REDACTED]	100-17541	SIDNEY LIPSHIRES
100-17930	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	ARMAND PENHA
100-12770	[REDACTED]	100-31934	ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN
100-12615	(FNU) [REDACTED]		CP FALL RIVER-- NEW BEDFORD

JBD:jda  
(15)



Mike said he was sorry but to try to visit him soon.

"On February 10th I called Mike and told him I was coming into Boston on Tuesday, February 11th and asked him if he cared to see me. Mike was delighted and asked me to drop by his house and have dinner with his family. We agreed to meet at 6:00 PM. I asked him if he wanted me to ask Audet or Rex to come along and he said 'No, come alone unless you promised to bring them along.'

"I left Fall River early in the afternoon and waited in the center of Boston, then I drove to Russo's house on Homestead Street in Roxbury, arriving at Mike's house about 5:30 PM. Mike was very happy to see me and so was Mrs. Russo, who remarked that I stayed away too long. Mike's son was also there to greet me. Mike opened a bottle of dry wine and served his wife and me and Mike also drank. The boy, however, did not drink.

"Mike asked about Audet and Rex. Then he asked about Appel. I told him that Appel became an aristocrat and doesn't want anyone to know that he ever was connected with the party. Mike said he knew Wernick very well and Kausch, but he did not know many of the other Jewish party members.

"Mike was concerned about the labor situation here, especially textiles and, of course, asked how I was doing with the Teamsters. I told him as far as the Teamsters were concerned, I was bowing out, because I told Mike 'Many things that I thought as facts are beginning to smell.' Mike said he knew what I meant. We then discussed textiles. I told him that the executive board of the Textile Workers' Union were meeting in New York and that I suspected that the contracts would be renewed with no increase. Mike said he agreed with me but I should go after my textile union friends and have them force the labor leaders to fight for the workers, because he said there is a terrible added workload coming and it is worse than the decrease in pay. He asked me to be alert and fight these injustices.



"Mrs. Russo at this point said 'We heard from Joseph Figueiredo'. He sent us a Christmas card with pictures of his 3 children'. I told her I was very glad to hear that Joe is married again and doing fine. Mrs. Russo then said 'It was one of those things that he left Lula, who also is a very fine person'. I told her that Rex and Audet and I had heard from Lula. Mike said 'While I was in New York last month at a National Committee Meeting, I met Joe FIGUEIREDO and he looked fine'. Mike said Joe Figueiredo was working in a warehouse in California and doing very well. I said 'I should say so, if he can afford to come to New York from California'. Mike laughed at this.

"Mike said that Sid Lipshires had moved to California. I asked Mike about New Bedford and he said that (so and so) Sid and Armand really fixed it in New Bedford. I said Armand who and Mike said Armand Penha, the guy the FBI took care of right along and Sid could not see through him, as he should have.

Mike said 'I have a car and I can visit more often'. I took the cue and said 'Fine, when you are free, I would love to have you and Mrs. Russo visit me at my home'. Both Mike and Mrs. Russo were very happy and accepted this invitation with many thanks.

"We discussed the last 2 meetings, the one where Elizabeth Gurley Flynn spoke at the church and of course Mike spoke of the minister who was so loyal to civil liberties and he had and would continue to defy and give the use of his church to an oppressed people who were being enslaved by the Smith Act.

"We spoke about Fall River--Mike said he lived in Fall River for 2 weeks in his underground days, in a rooming house on 3rd or 4th Street and said he went to a public beach every day.

[REDACTED]

"Mike is now working for himself--paperhanger and inside painting--said he had been doing very well considering that he is just starting--has a small Jewish man as his helper and recently worked 14 straight days. Mike said he is going to an exclusive group in Brookline and Brighton where he can charge more money and show his real talents. I wished him a lot of luck on his venture.

"Mike said that there was a lot of work to be corrected and a lot of work to be done in Fall River. I told Mike that I would be ready any time to help, with the understanding that I sort of stay in the background, out of danger of exposure. He said 'Of course, we also couldn't take any chances--and you can depend on me never to embarrass you'. I told him I felt the same way about him.

"Mrs. Russo asked me if I knew a Dr. Levine in Fall River--I asked why and told her I knew of him. She said Dr. Levine has written several poems for the Massachusetts Medical Journal and working for the Medical Journal, they came through me--I asked her if she was regularly employed there and she said 'Yes'. I believe she said she was the editor.

"The boy seemed very interested in what we were talking about and occasionally spoke out. The boy spoke of athletics in his school, saying that his main interest was rowing and, next to rowing, track. He said he attended the track meet at the Boston Garden recently and enjoyed it very much. Mrs. Russo said she was also interested in track saying that in Europe they have a better athletic program than we have here. She spoke about her interest when she attended Wellesley. (Note: Mrs. Russo served a very nice dinner Italian style with all the trimmings including the service.)

"Before I left Mike was very anxious to come to Fall River and kept mentioning his car. I told him not to forget to call me when he was ready to come down to Fall River and I would be more than happy to have him come to my house. Mrs. Russo also said that would be fine and we will be looking forward to that visit. I left Mike's house at 10:00 PM."

[REDACTED]

All necessary action has been taken with respect to information furnished by this informant.

[REDACTED] advised orally on February 19, 1958 that the KEUSCH mentioned in this report was NATHAN KEUSCH who died in Fall River on February 15, 1949.



OFFICE MEMORANDUM - U. S. GOVERNMENT

TO: SAC, BOSTON (100-20778)

DATE: March 4, 1958

FROM: SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA, MEMBERSHIP  
IS - C

Re memo of SA [REDACTED] dated January 27, 1958.

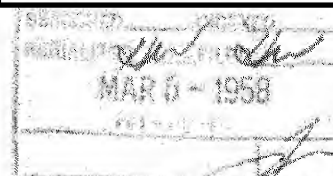
On February 17, 1958, ARMANDO PENHA, SOI, advised that based upon his experience as a former Section Organizer of the Communist Party in the New Bedford, Massachusetts, area, he would state that there are approximately five persons in this area who would still be active in the Communist Party, namely: MARY FIGUEIREDO, DOUGLAS N. PERRY, JOHN CORDEIRO, ROY ROGERSON, and PALMEDA ROGERSON.

On 2/13/58, [REDACTED] advised that to his knowledge there are only three active Communist Party members in Fall River at present: namely, JAMES R. REX; ERNEST AUDET and himself [REDACTED].

cc:

2 - 100-20778 - CP, USA, MEMBERSHIP  
1 - [REDACTED] - ARMANDO PENHA  
1 - [REDACTED]  
1 - 100-31934 - CP, FALL RIVER-NEW BEDFORD  
1 - 100-11637 - [REDACTED]  
1 - 100-24298 - [REDACTED]  
1 - 100-14506 - [REDACTED]  
1 - 100-17514 - [REDACTED]  
1 - 100-22489 - [REDACTED]  
1 - 100-15635 - [REDACTED]  
1 - 100-17930 - [REDACTED]

JBD:ds  
(12)



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OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-421934)  
(100-421896)

MAR 17 1958

FROM : SAC, BOSTON (100-31113)  
(100-25725)

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

Rerep of SA [REDACTED] dated 1/31/58  
at New Haven.

ARMANDO PENHA, SOI, New Bedford, Mass., formerly [REDACTED]  
advised SA [REDACTED] on 2/17/58 that he was unable to furnish  
anything additional concerning captioned subject to that set forth  
in a statement executed by him on 9/2/55. The identity of PENHA, who  
has furnished reliable information in the past, should be concealed.

A copy of Boston letter to the Bureau dated 9/6/55 entitled,  
[REDACTED] aka, [REDACTED] Dept. of the  
Navy, Quonset Point, Rhode Island, SGE", in which PENHA's statement  
of 9/2/55 is set forth, is being enclosed for the information of the  
New Haven Office. The original statement is located in Boston file  
[REDACTED]

For the further information of the New Haven Office it is  
contemplated that ARMANDO PENHA will be called to testify before the  
HCUA in hearings scheduled to start on 3/18/58 at Boston, Mass.

RUC.

4-Bureau R.M.  
4-New Haven (2-100-16689)(Encl.1)R.M.  
(2-100-16690)  
3-Boston (1- [REDACTED])  
LMMcG:efh  
(11)

[REDACTED]

b6  
b7C  
b7E

SAC, BOSTON (100-24111)  
(ATTENTION: SUPV. [REDACTED])

April 2, 1958

SA [REDACTED]

NEGRO QUESTION

On March 10, 1958 ARMANDO PENHA, Source of Information, submitted a written report concerning the Negro Question in the Communist Party.

This report is based upon the Informant's previous experience as Section Organizer of the Communist Party in the New Bedford area for several years and as a former member of the New England District Committee of the Communist Party.

<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>Date of Activity And/or Description of Information</u>	<u>Date Received</u>	<u>Agent to whom Furnished</u>	<u>File Number where Located</u>
ARMANDO PENHA, SOI,		3/10/58 (written report)	SA [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	

The information contained in the following report is not being chanelized to individual files because it is information that has been previously given by PENHA and is being submitted at this time for intelligence purposes only. The report reads as follows:

"The Negro Question in the Communist Party

"The Communist Party has pursuit a program to utilize the negro people for both agitational and propaganda purposes. In order to create disunity it has capitalize upon the Civil Rights issue. Subsequently, it has met the negro question by means of stirring up and developing any cases which legitimate organizations have endeavoured to cope with, by having its party members infiltrate such organizations.

1 - (100-24111)

① - [REDACTED]

JED:jda

(2)

[REDACTED]

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 3 - 1958	
FBI - BOSTON	

Edward Teixeira, member of the communist party in the Boston area was informed to infiltrate the Order of the Elks, negro chapter. According to him and Sidney Lipshires, I was informed that this had been taken place. Subsequently, he was suspected by the Order and expelled.

In such unions where the party has a stronghold, it has deemed to set the negro problem as a key issue to cope with, both within the plant and in political activities as well. Community discriminating housing for negro and pressuring political candidates to such a stand as supporting local and national issues concerning the negro problems are used.

In order to be able to infiltrate key and basic industries in the South, stress is made by the party of the economical chaos that exist in that area. By economical equality in job classifications, better wages, etc., it plays up the racial issue.

In its fight for peaceful co-existence, the party has set the negro question as being more than an domestic issue, has it reflects the real meaning of fighting for a true peace, by proving to the colonial powers of the world that our country has to provide equality to the negro as well as to the national minority groups.

The National Negro Commission of the party, thru one of its members, the late Edward Strong, at a meeting in New York City of the National Textile Commission, in the late Fall of 1955, stated that, 'the achievement of Socialism in our country, depends largely upon the ability of the party being able to champion the the negro's rights in the entire country, not only in the South, by giving leadership to his people in the Civil Rights issues now facing the negro peoples and those to come'.

In its fight to meet the negro problems both within the party as well as throughout the country, white chauvinism, has plagued the party extensively. Although back in 1950 and 1951, the party headed by Pettis Perry struggled to rid itself of it, in my opinion has not been able to cope with this problem. The negro communist in the party sees this hanging over and the negro question will be one that will help degenerate the party to its lowest ebb.

BS 100-24111

The Gates-Foster factional dispute has more than aided to the weakness of the party to cope with the negro question. For the time being at least, not having the services of the Daily Worker to play up the negro question has thrown back the party's capacity to convince the negro comrades of the party's role in making the liberal forces aware of the party's role.

The initiative of the negro people to unit and work for equal rights in the public schools of the South, without the party's leadership, has made the party reach a low ebb by finding itself far behind the negro people rather than being in the forefront.

The failure of the party not being able to recruit a vast number of negro youth into its ranks is indicative of the party's weakness in coping with the negro question within the party, let alone outside of it."



The Negro Question in the Communist Party

The Communist Party has pursued a program to utilize the negro people for both agitational and propaganda purposes. In order to create disunity it has capitalized upon the Civil Rights issue. Subsequently, it has met the negro question by means of stirring up and developing any cases which legitimate organizations have endeavored to cope with, by having its party members infiltrate such organizations.

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In such unions where the party has a stronghold, it has deemed to set the negro problem as a key issue to cope with, both within the plant and in political activities as well. Community dis-criminating housing for negro and pressuring political candidates to such a stand as supporting local and national issues concerning the negro problems are used.

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In its fight to meet the negro problems both within the party as well as throughout the country, white chauvinism, has plagued the party extensively. Although back in 1950 and 1951, the party headed by Pettis Perry struggled to rid itself of it, in my opinion has not been able to cope with this problem. The negro communist in the party sees this hanging over and the negro question will be one that will help degenerate the party to its lowest ebb.

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*Robert Va. Ques*



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b7C  
b7D  
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OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC (100-7908) DATE: April 15, 1958

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: CP, USA, NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT  
IS - C

From : [REDACTED]

Concealment and Reliability : T- , who has furnished reliable information in the past

Date and Description : District Committee meeting, CP, USA, New England District, 3/9/58, Peabody, Mass.

Date Received : Received orally 3/10/58.

Recei : Acknowledged by signature of [REDACTED] 3/17/58

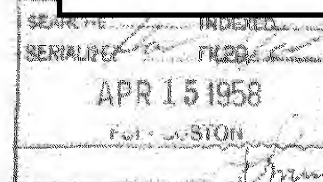
Received by : SA [REDACTED]

Location : [REDACTED]

In view of the sensitivity of this informant, the utmost care must be utilized to carefully paraphrase this information prior to dissemination in order to protect the identity of this informant.

cc: 1 - Chicago (61-867) [REDACTED] (RM)  
1 - Cleveland (100-4212) [REDACTED] (RM)  
1 - Detroit (100-13420) [REDACTED] (RM)  
11 - New York (RM)  
(100-80641) (CP, USA, ORGANIZATION) (#19-1)  
(100-8057) [REDACTED] (#19-1)  
(100-93345) (MICHAEL A. RUSSO)  
(100-87211) (CP, USA, FACTIONALISM) (#19-1)  
(100-50090) [REDACTED] 19-1)  
(100- [REDACTED])  
(100-84275) [REDACTED]  
(97-169) (PUBLISHERS NEW PRESS) (#7-2)  
(100-27539) [REDACTED]  
(100-105078) [REDACTED]  
(100-18065) [REDACTED] (#19-1)  
43 Boston (100-7908) [REDACTED]  
(see Page 1A for BS copies)  
[REDACTED]

LMM:cm  
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cc: [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]  
ARMANDO PENHA  
CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

[REDACTED]  
HCUA, NEW ENGLAND AREA

[REDACTED]  
MASS. COMMISSION TO INVEST. COMMUNISM

[REDACTED]  
RUSSIAN CLUB, PEABODY

[REDACTED]  
ATTEMPTS BY CP TO ESTABLISH BROAD  
SOCIALIST ORGANIZATION

CP - ORGANIZATION  
CP - INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
CP - POLITICAL ACTIVITIES  
CP - LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES  
CP - DOMESTIC ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES  
CP - STRATEGY IN INDUSTRY  
CP - NEGRO QUESTION  
CP - PAMPHLETS & PUBLICATIONS  
CP - ROXBURY  
CP - DORCHESTER  
CP - NEW HAMPSHIRE  
CP - RHODE ISLAND  
FREEDOM OF PRESS ASSOCIATION  
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Informant's written report, dated March 10, 1958, follows:

"March 10, 1958

"On Sunday, March 9, 1958, a District Committee meeting of the New England Communist Party was held in the basement of the Russian Club, on Northend Street, Peabody, Massachusetts. Those attending were:

"LEW JOHNSON  
PHIL KORITZ  
BEN LANDEY  
FRANCES HOOD  
ELBA CHASE NELSON, from New Hampshire, who attended  
as a substitute for HOMER, who  
was not there.  
JOHN HOVAN, from Rhode Island  
OTIS HOOD, who was Chairman  
ELSIE PIPER  
ANN TIMPSON  
MIKE RUSSO  
DAN SCHIRMER  
BOBBY GOODWIN  
'HANK,' from Worcester, Massachusetts

"Also in the building but not participating in the meeting, was MIKE, the janitor.

"ELSIE PIPER stopped and bought food for lunch, at Lena's, on Main Street, Peabody, and SOL FISHER helped to bring it into the club and then he left immediately.

"ELSIE PIPER was late in arriving at the meeting, and it had already started when she got there. MIKE RUSSO was giving a report on some economic aspects that were reported at the National Committee Meeting he had attended. He said that the effect of the current recession was far worse than in 1939 and that one of the reasons was the deferred demand for housing and durable goods such as cars, refrigerators, etc. He said we were at the end of the post-war era; that there had been a direct cut of investments in relation to output; and that the inability of the American capitalists to correct this was becoming more and more apparent as the recession became broader and broader. MIKE's report consisted of a resume' of an article entitled, 'At The Threshold Of a Major Depression - a Communist Analysis', submitted to a recent National Committee meeting of the

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"Communist Party by HYMAN LUMER. The article appears in part on Page 8 of 'The Worker', issue of March 9, 1958.

"MIKE also announced that this report by LUMER would be found in full, in the March issue of 'Political Affairs'.

"LEW JOHNSON proposed that we should be doing some work in the labor movement; that we could perhaps educate or advance the proposition that under Socialism this type of thing would not happen; and that capitalism had no answer to the problem of recession.

"PHIL KORITZ proposed that we should study economics in Massachusetts; that we should be developing some sort of program as to what we can do and that we might consider some sort of leaflet on this type of thing. PHIL was for instituting a program of our own and not waiting for the National people to initiate programs.

"ELBA commented that she had read the report by LUMER in 'The Worker'. She said she thought there was a weakness in his report; that there should have been some consideration given to the task of nurturing foreign trade. She said we were trading with the USSR on a very small scale and that this country should be trading with China and enlarging its trade with the USSR. She stated this would be a means of increasing business in this country. She contended that LUMER's report was very weak in this particular aspect and felt LUMER should have examined this, in a really good analysis; that this was something he had not touched on.

"FRAN HOOD said one of the reasons the economy has held up was the military expenditures. She also said that one of the things we should be doing was to really become active in a peace campaign, getting people to think in terms of peace.

"PHIL KORITZ said that we should be developing an anti-monopoly people's coalition. He said we should be pointing out to people where Socialism could solve the problems, and that we should also be studying and pointing out to people the natural development of capitalism which always results in a crises, that is a depression or a recession such as we are suffering from now. He said we should, ourselves, be studying more the nature of capitalism in order to be able to point this out to the workers.

"ANN TIMPSON said we could point out that it was wrong when the ruling capitalists take away people's livelihood. ANN stated there were many areas that we should be considering which we really don't talk about, such as re-affirming PHIL'S stand that Socialism would do more for the workers than capitalism.

"ANN said we would have to do a lot of research into conditions. She had a booklet entitled 'WAGES AND THE PUBLIC INTEREST, A CONFERENCE ON ECONOMIC PROGRESS'. This was a report on economic conditions in the country. The address on the book was 1001 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington 6, D.C., price 50¢ each. She read several titles from this booklet indicating the causes for recession and said apparently the government was even concerned about the recession. She said she had heard the booklet advertised on the radio and had sent for it.

"MIKE RUSSO said that many of our Comrades or some Comrades in the Party think that it would be good if we had a depression; that people would come over to our way of thinking a lot quicker, and that it would make it easier to influence people. He said it was incorrect to say that we recommend a depression because we don't welcome a depression. He said we always try to make things better for the mass of people by making their living conditions better, and that we should not go around saying that we welcome a depression. He said this was a very un-MARXIST attitude, but nevertheless there still remained in our Party some people who thought like this.

"The question as to procedure came up. ELSIE was to give a report on unemployment and asked for the floor. She inquired of BOBBY if he didn't think this would be a good time to give the report because it tied in with the other things being discussed. BOBBY agreed that it would be the proper time.

"ELSIE gave a breakdown in unemployment in Massachusetts. She said it had been reported that there were 150,000 people unemployed in the State and more and more people were applying for unemployment insurance. She stated that in November there had been about 5% and now the percentage had gone up to 7.8% for unemployment compensation. She said that General Electric had laid off 2,500 since

"November, and that they usually have a working force of 20,000 people. In Peabody some of the leather shops had left town, and a plastic place had recently laid off 200. She understood that in Danvers, Hytron had laid off almost its entire night shift, and that in Amesbury there was a textile mill which had closed down completely. She wanted to read a few newspaper articles showing how the capitalists were handling this situation.

"She pointed out an article in the Beverly Evening Times, front page, issue of Wednesday, March 5, 1958, entitled 'REID-POST Machine Firm on Half-Time Work Plan'. She said this company had been almost entirely dependent on defense orders. After reading the article she commented on another article in the Boston Herald, March 8, first page, bottom left hand two columns, entitled 'Over 100,000 Out of Work In The State'. She said that in this article it was pointed out that despite the unemployment situation there were a great many jobs available for women. The article noted that the jobs have remained open, apparently because of their specialized requirements. It stated 'There is a "terrific" excess of unemployed men but a serious shortage of employable women'. The Herald article was suggested by ELSIE as something which should be read.

"ELSIE also referred to VICTOR RIESEL'S column, 'INSIDE LABOR', in the Lynn Telegram News, on the editorial page, Saturday, March 8, 1958, with the comment that apparently labor, particularly COPE, with the assistance of the WAD, are moving on some of the issues that are facing the people. ELSIE made the comment that apparently this activity is taking place in the South and the West Coast and this is something that we should get more information on; that we have been unaware of this. ELSIE said her husband is the Chapel Chairman of his shop for his union, and that he recently had some stickers to sell to the members from COPE. She said she would send to their Washington address and try to get more information on WAD. RIESEL described COPE as the Committee on Political Education, AFL-CIO. A WAD, in labor's national campaign machinery, is a Women's Activities Director of COPE, according to RIESEL.



"MIKE said he was glad that Comrade ELSIE had read the article about REID-POST in the Beverly Evening Times because some of the Comrades were attempting to advocate this same sort of thing, in which he was in disagreement. He said this was a capitalist's way of maneuvering and his comment was - why should some guy give up a week's pay for some other guy - there should be full employment for everyone. This article on REID-POST concerned an announcement by that company that because of a continued lack of production orders, 115 of its employees were being placed on a half-time work schedule which will give them one full five day week's pay every other week. The article further noted that this would assure a continuity of income for the company production employees and give them an opportunity to do more part-time work elsewhere than if they worked only half a week each week. Another reported advantage was that the production employees would not only be assured of at least half of their normal week's pay through their every other week's work, but both they and the firm would be better prepared to resume full production and consequent full employment as soon as conditions permit.

"At this time ANN made the comment that we should be pushing for the extra thirteen weeks of workmen's compensation. She said there were so many people unemployed who had used up all their unemployment compensation that this would offer them some relief, and further, that even though it had been proposed by President EISENHOWER, it didn't mean necessarily that it was bad.

"BEN commented there was a certain weakness in labor on foreign policy, and we should be attempting to change the whole policy outlook of labor. He said in Sharon they were having new schools and we should be pointing out to people that money should be spent for schools and so forth, instead of on a defense program. He also made the comment that they were having a town meeting in Sharon where this question was going to come up.

"MIKE stated that capitalism can't solve the basic contradictions of capitalism which affect the masses, although it might be able to do it temporarily. He said we should examine this recession, that it may be even worse. He stated that at the same time we should also examine the fact that capitalism has been able to maneuver in this situation and may be able to extend their maneuver to alleviate this condition. He said that today,

"unless you have a correct policy within our Party-the correct policy of program and tactics - you weren't going to change things much. He said that the quality of our role has to be different; that our role today is politically different and higher than it was a generation ago; and that we had to examine our role today in a different light than a generation ago. He said he completely rejects 'Share the Work'. If the capitalists can't give the workers jobs, the government should be compelled to give workers jobs.

"DAN moved that out of this discussion we should set up a committee to prepare a report on economic development, nationally and in New England. This was unanimously passed. Volunteers were requested and LEW JOHNSON and OTIS HOOD volunteered. ANN and FRAN suggested that MIKE also be on the committee. MIKE said that if it were going to take a lot of time he would not be able to do anything immediately on it because he had a new job and also because of the HCUA coming into town. He said if that was understood, he would be glad to work on that committee. No objection was made to this qualification by MIKE.

"MIKE gave a report on the resolution submitted by EUGENE DENNIS, 'ON UNITING AND STRENGTHENING THE PARTY AND ITS MASS WORK', adopted by the National Committee, February 15th. He said there were three main reasons that the Party found itself in the situation it is in today. The first was the internal situation that had existed in the Party; the second was the 20th Congress Report; and the third was the Hungarian situation. All of these had tended to intensify the crisis rather than to alleviate it.

"He went back to the 16th National Convention where certain resolutions were made and where there was a feeling that some of the things accomplished would make it possible for us to move forward more rapidly than previously - that it would help create more unity within the Party. He said subsequent events held up this unity and held up putting into practice some of the things they intended to do. He stated that even at the 16th Convention there were a great many Comrades who had reservations on unity; that there was a division as to whether revisionism, or left sectarianism was the main danger; and that over the years this had resulted in the line up of definite forces within the Party.

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"MIKE commented that every National Committee meeting he had ever attended had been a complete wrangle, nothing had been accomplished, and that so far as any discussion of any program was concerned, there had been none to date. He said a more recent division took place on the 12-Party Statement; that the struggle was more acute and within the National leadership an irreconcilable division had taken place. He said there was no need for him to go into how he felt about it as he had expressed himself previously.

"MIKE said that at the National Committee meeting, DENNIS, STEIN, CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT and CARL WINTER were to work out a resolution 'On Uniting And Strengthening The Party'; that DENNIS couldn't get together with the other three so STEIN, LIGHTFOOT, and WINTER tried to work out something. MIKE said STEIN couldn't agree with CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT and CARL WINTER, and that they presented a resolution which was rejected. MIKE did not clarify his reference to 'they'. MIKE said DENNIS came in with a resolution described as 'On Uniting and Strengthening the Party And Its Mass Work'. This resolution was passed by a majority at the National Committee meeting of February 15th. MIKE said the resolution which was presented by CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT and CARL WINTER, which was rejected, would be published for the membership, he thought, in the March 'Political Affairs', or the resolution would be in 'The Worker', so that all the members would have a chance to discuss it.

"MIKE said that the National Executive Committee (NEC) had been dissolved. He said attempts were made at the National Committee meeting to reconstitute the NEC without success. He stated nine people accepted membership on the NEC but that others refused to accept nomination. The nine consisted of seven members in New York, possibly the delegate from Northern California, and one other. The seven in New York have been constituted a Resident Committee and given the power of making policy decisions. MIKE said there would be a factual report on this situation in 'The Worker'. He said there were other developments taking place which bode no good.

"BEN LANDEY proposed that we vote against accepting DENNIS' resolution.

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"ELBA CHASE said we should not be asked to vote on it, that she had just gotten the resolution, had not read it yet, and that she would like to study it before she made up her mind on it.

"Copies of EUGENE DENNIS' resolution and a resolution on JOHN GATES, adopted by the National Committee, February 15, 1958, had previously been sent to New England District Committee members, to be read before this meeting by ANN TIMPSON. ELSIE received a copy of each resolution from BOBBY GOODWIN, Saturday evening, March 8th.

"JOHN HOVAN commented that he wished to thank the Committee for sending him the resolutions ahead of the District Committee meeting.

"The resolution on JOHN GATES was not discussed at this District Committee meeting and it was unanimously agreed to table this resolution until the next meeting. It was additionally agreed that we should present the resolutions at our section meetings for discussion, and to bring in any suggestions or amendments which the membership wanted to make.

"The next thing that came up was the decision of MIKE to stay on the District Committee and the National Committee. MIKE had to leave early, it being the understanding of ELSIE that some of his paintings were on exhibition at Boston University.

"Since MIKE could not be present at this time for discussion on his action, it was decided to table all discussion on his decision until the next District Committee meeting. Eight voted for postponement, two against, and there were two abstentions. PHIL KORITZ voted against tabling, and the other voting against tabling I was not able to identify. The two abstentions were ELSIE PIPER and FRAN HOOD.

"ELBA CHASE asked MIKE to explain further his comment that there were other things taking place which boded no good. MIKE explained to her that within our Party, particularly at the top leadership, there was a growing attitude of not accepting anybody who did not think exactly as you did. He said that the 16th Party Convention had laid down certain resolutions whereby

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"It was permissible to have a difference of opinion about an issue. He stated he liked to think that there was room within the Party for all shades of opinion, that he did not always agree with everybody on top but felt if we did not allow differences of opinion we were going back to the old way and negating the 16th Party Convention. He strongly inferred without actually saying so, that DENNIS had taken the Party over. He mentioned SACHEL and said there should be room in the Party for SACHEL as well as EUGENE DENNIS. He stated he had seen EUGENE DENNIS work in the past, and on a great many occasions he would rather go along with SACHEL.

"ELBA disagreed with him on SACHEL. She said in times past in New York and New Hampshire she had found SACHEL very very difficult to work with, and very arrogant. Then she asked MIKE - if this leadership did not prove to be what the membership wanted or could work with - didn't we still retain the power of recalling them? MIKE said yes, we did. She said she thought that maybe for a while we should go along with the leadership as now constituted, to see if it would create a more workable solution than had been presented during the past year.

"According to MIKE, on DENNIS' resolution which was adopted at the convention, 32 voted for adoption, 21 against, and 3 abstained.

"PHIL KORITZ made the comment that he didn't see where this resolution upset any of the 16th Convention decisions; that according to the vote as given by MIKE, it had been a majority decision. He thought we should examine it, and that MIKE was wrong in presenting it as he did.

"Referring to the resolution by EUGENE DENNIS, DAN SCHIRMER thought we should examine it, and said that as in the past DENNIS was very ambiguous. He pointed out two paragraphs on Page 2 to illustrate DENNIS' ambiguity, namely - 'The convention also underscored the fact that the Party is not a temporary organization nor a holding operation, supposedly serving as a stepping stone to some nebulously-defined successor. The Party is here to stay. Without it, the fight for social progress will be limited and the victory of socialism is inconceivable', - and 'The Mass party of Socialism for which we strive must also be a party of this type -- a working class vanguard party guided by the science of MARXISM-LENINISM. It



"must not be confused with other types of political parties of a united front character, or with an idea of a so-called united socialist party in which adherents of MARXISM-LENINISM would be only one among a number of other ideological currents. Nor should it be confused with the urgent need of promoting united front relations and cooperation between Communists and other pro-socialist elements'. SCHIRMER said he thought the Party had to meet the needs of the working class and he did not think this resolution exhibited any confidence in doing so.

"The House UnAmerican Committee was discussed. ELSIE had told BOBBY, Saturday night, that PHIL had been called, and very briefly read the publicity about it in the Sunday Herald before going to the District Committee meeting. ELSIE stated at the District Committee meeting, this article in the Herald disclosed that forty people had been called. ELSIE informed ANN that her brother, PHIL, was being called up again. The article in the Sunday Herald also said a former CP member who was called before, but not in public session, would tell all. ANN told ELSIE that she believed this person was ARMAND PENHA, of New Bedford. ANN said he was the one they were going to use against the Smith Act Victims, but they didn't get a chance to because of the Supreme Court decision. ANN said she thought we had to consider the question of why this Committee was coming into Massachusetts again and projected several possible reasons, such as layoffs and unemployment in industrial areas. She stated the Committee would take the minds of people off unemployment. Continuing, ANN stated that the State Commission so far had not been successful in getting a continuance; that it was now in the Ways and Means Committee of the Senate; and that this may be a way of getting support for continuance of the Commission for another year in Massachusetts. She said at the State House hearing on the extension of the Massachusetts Commission, there had been a number of professors and ministers who opposed the continuance of the Commission; also that it was the first time that the Catholics had come out openly for the Commission. She thought we should take a very flexible approach as to what those who had been called up were to do. She said that possibly they should go to the Bar Association for their lawyers instead of getting a left-wing lawyer to represent



"them. ANN mentioned that this might be a means of broadening and including other people in opposition to the Un-American Activities Committee. She projected other reasons, such as perhaps they were holding this hearing to uphold the war hysteria and to spike people's desire for a summit meeting. She said we would have to call on the Party in every locality for support. She recalled that at the last hearing of the Smith Act case there had been an organized group who attended, to heckle the Smith Act Victims. She said that outside of finances we should call on the Party in every locality to try to organize a good crowd at the Committee hearings. She said we should also investigate the Watkins Decision and see how it would affect them before the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA).

"They talked about approaching liberals in Boston, and HOWELL'S Committee of the Civil Liberties Union was mentioned as one committee they should approach.

"I believe it was at this point ANN mentioned that STRUIK and HARVEY O'CONNOR, of Rhode Island, and JOHNSON, had at times worked with HOWELL'S Committee. She said she had heard of a book published by HARVEY O'CONNOR in the past year which included headlines and articles in all United States papers by people commenting against the HCUA. ANN stated that maybe they should get this book to see if there was anything in it they could use for themselves.

"Continuing the general discussion on the House Committee's appearance at Boston starting March 18, OTIS HOOD stated that he had been at a meeting, not further described, a few days previous at which it was suggested that Mrs. ROOSEVELT'S opposition attack on Senator KENNEDY regarding his stand on McCARTHYISM, be raised in the coming elections. HOOD then wondered if Mrs. ROOSEVELT'S opposition attack on KENNEDY regarding his stand on McCARTHYISM, could be utilized as a means of making KENNEDY take a stand on the issue of the HCUA. This was not further clarified.

"As a means of reaching Mrs. ROOSEVELT, OTIS HOOD stated there were liberal forces in Boston that 'certainly some of us know', who could contact her. He said A. J. MUSTE (ph. of New York, should in addition be contacted inasmuch as MUSTE had liberal connections in Boston who possibly could also contact ELEANOR ROOSEVELT.

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"The comment from FRAN HOOD and I believe PHIL KORITZ was that they should not let anybody know about the idea of contacting Mrs. ROOSEVELT to make KENNEDY take a stand on the thing.

"ELSIE received the impression that the meeting referred to by HOOD was a non-Party meeting inasmuch as HOOD invariably identified Party meetings by use of such terms as - 'a few of us Comrades met to discuss, etc.' or 'A few of us comrades got together to discuss, etc.' and that, as indicated, HOOD stated in this instance that he had merely been at a meeting.

"FRAN HOOD said she had talked to FLORENCE LUSCOMB on the telephone last night and FLORENCE LUSCOMB had not heard about the appearance of the House Committee. According to FRAN, her comment was - 'the bastards'.

"ANN said that she wasn't sure whether they should use the Fifth Amendment, or the First Amendment. She thought she would like to get up and when asked if she knew OTIS HOOD, would like to be able to say yes, he was a friend of hers and was proud of his friendship. She also wondered if it was necessary for everybody going up there to have a lawyer, and that this was something they should consider.

"ELBA CHASE cautioned against anybody going up to one of those affairs without a lawyer, and said that from her own experience she wouldn't advise anybody going without a lawyer. She said a lawyer did one of two things for you - that it was a help to have someone there you could turn to for advice, and that it was also a means of getting a recess merely by consulting your lawyer. She also cautioned ANN against even thinking about identifying OTIS HOOD or anybody else as 'a friend', adding that quite naturally she and ANN would be proud to do so. She said, however, that once you did this a good lawyer would tell you that you would have given up your right to refuse to identify other persons if you knew them.

"No action was taken on the suggestions of HOOD and others above, and it could not be determined from conversation whether HOOD's suggested possible use of Mrs. ROOSEVELT would be seriously considered or acted upon in any way at this time. Rather, all action in regard to the HCUA was left to a committee set-up at the meeting, who, with

"lawyers to be retained, were to decide as to what action should be taken. The committee was set up to include the officers of the District Committee. The Committee was given the right to include as a member, anyone, either Party or non-Party, who wanted to work on the coming Boston appearance of the HCUA.

"The next report was given by ELBA, as a substitute for HOMER CHASE. She said that HOMER was delegated at the last District Committee meeting to give this report on the DeGREGORY case but that HOMER couldn't be there because he was running for Selectman in the town of Washington, New Hampshire. She said that some of the New Hampshire Comrades had gotten together and agreed there should be four things done:

- "(1) That the Party 'Bulletin' be used to inform our own members of the history of the DeGREGORY case;
- "(2) That it was of the utmost importance to broaden the committee to include and enlist the aid of known people, not Party members, from all the New England states;
- "(3) That a news report on the case appear in the press, especially in 'The Worker', and that people should be informed that HUGO was no longer a member of the Party;
- "(4) That a letter by LOUISE DeGREGORY be gotten out.

"ELBA said she read the letter there for the first time. She said that CLEVELAND, who was in the New Hampshire Senate, was their lawyer and one could see his influence on HUGO. She said HUGO and HOMER were in disagreement on the case for a long time; that HOMER felt the Party should be involved in it whereas HUGO did not. She said that the issue involved in HUGO'S case was the State Immunity law. HUGO had taken a strong stand on it and had refused to give in. On the other hand HOMER'S argument had been that this State Immunity Law affected all of us, Party people, union members and other groups of people.

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"There were certain comments on ELBA'S suggestions. Everybody agreed that it shouldn't be advertised to the Party membership that HUGO was no longer a Party member, that he was making a terrifically good fight and when the case is finally settled, he should be allowed to make a public statement at that time.

"DAN did not think we should have a story in 'The Bulletin', that rather, we should send letters to 'The Worker' and the 'Guardian' on the case.

"BOBBY suggested that HOMER write a New Hampshire history of the case for 'The Bulletin'.

"There was some question as to the use of LOUISE DeGREGORY'S letter, whether it should be mailed out, etc. FRAN HOOD explained that this letter was not for publication, that it was to be put into the hands of people or mailed to people who might be interested in the case and might give it financial support, a very select group of people.

"BOBBY changed his suggestion and made a resolution that instead of giving a history of the DeGREGORY case for 'The Bulletin', it would be better if HOMER gave us an analysis of the Immunity Law, so we would know what the law means in upholding the constitution, and its effect on individuals.

"I believe ELBA said this Immunity Law was enacted in 1953 in New Hampshire.

"It was voted unanimously, that HOMER, instead of writing up a history of the DeGREGORY case, should give an analysis of the Immunity Law, and that he bring this to the next District Committee meeting for a decision as to whether it should be published in 'The Bulletin', or just be circulated.

"ELBA said that in view of the small group involved, the utmost importance should be given her proposal to broadening a committee to include known people from all the New England states.

"In regard to this, ANN and FRAN HOOD suggested that ELBA see LOUISE about getting a committee active on the case in New Hampshire. They thought a nucleus would first have to be formed in New Hampshire, and then broadened to include

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"people from other states. They said you wouldn't get many people in Massachusetts or any other state unless you first had a committee in the State in which the case was involved.

"HANK suggested that we have mailings of the letter in all areas, and instigate some interest in this case.

"The next thing on the agenda was a report on 'The Worker', by ANN TIMPSON.

"ANN reported that WILLIAM PATTERSON had been up here to speak; that he had been invited to the Dorchester Forum on Sunday morning, February 23. She said he had written ahead and asked to meet with some Party people and that they had had a very impromptu gathering for him. She said they had not bothered to reach areas like Rhode Island or the outlying areas, but had three comrades come up from Fall River, which was as far as anybody had come.

"She said PATTERSON had reported that we had lost between 87 and 100 subscriptions to 'The Worker' in the past year in the Boston area, and as of now we were somewhat under 300 subscriptions in this area. ANN said the last she counted there were 181 subscriptions. She said we had to try to win back the readers we had as of February last year; that if we got busy and got 100 more we would pretty nearly have them all back again. She also brought out that the last issue of April would be a May Day issue and asked if we wanted a greeting in 'The Worker', and whether or not we wanted extra copies. She suggested that we elect a Press Director, somebody who could take care of rebuilding subscriptions to 'The Worker' and more or less have charge of the thing.

"At this point JOHN HOVAN said he hated to report that in Rhode Island they had lost some of their subscriptions, that they had lost the bookstand where some of the papers were sold in Providence. He said the operator's business completely collapsed and he had to fold up. He said that unfortunately they didn't know who the people were who bought the paper, and that they were able to retain only one man who previously bought the paper from this shoeshine parlor. He commented that the only good in the whole thing was that they now have the man coming to them for his paper and that he had some contact with them which he did not have before.



BS 100-7908

"It was proposed that we accept the quotas for enlarging the subscription and it was proposed and voted for unanimously.

"ANN proposed that we elect PHIL as Press Director. This was voted unanimously. ANN then proposed that we send a \$10.00 greeting to 'The Worker' for the May Day issue. That was also voted for unanimously.

"By this time it was getting rather late and BOBBY had a report to give on the election campaign.

"BOBBY proposed due to the economic situation we should, in the coming election campaign, back those candidates as much as possible from the working masses and build the anti-monopoly coalition. He also announced that the AFL-CIO was holding a conference in Washington, D.C., for March 11 - 13, and that out of this conference of top leadership in the unions, there would be some effort made to alleviate the unemployment situation in the country.

"On the Democratic Party situation in the State, BOBBY estimated that there would be about twenty unions come out for RUDSTEIN as against FOSTER FURCOLO. He said they would make hall speeches against anti-monopoly and that RUDSTEIN had made an anti-monopoly speech recently. He wondered if the Dorchester Comrades could investigate the RUDSTEIN situation at the grassroots level. He thought the Roxbury Comrades should find out what could possibly be done among the negro people in the coming campaign. He said the Roxbury people should be looking forward to some activity with the negro people in that area, and that we all should be thinking about the independent role of the Party in the coming elections. He said he thought the question of leaflets must be considered again. He said we must also consider the question of a full, or part-time legislative agent to coordinate policy and activity, keeping in mind the eventuality of considering our own people running as individual candidates for school board, alderman, or that type of thing.

"He said on the left, the SWP has raised the idea of a united Socialist ticket, and that this is affecting the National Guardian people and independent socialists.



"He said he thought we had made a mistake in not carrying our program to these people because it had given the SWP the opportunity to get in there ahead of us and take the initiative. He said we had not carried our policy sharply enough within the left because of our internal situation, leaving this important field to the SWP. He said we have to consider the United Socialist ticket proposed by the TROTSKYITES because we have actually let them steal a march on us. He said we have to take a position on everything and we have to back the candidates that take a positive view on anti-monopoly. He said that we, ourselves, have to take that view. BOBBY commented that the mainstream of our activity should be with the Democratic Party and labor unions, and that occasionally we should support embryonic Socialist movements. He said that everywhere and anywhere we can, we have to take a positive position, especially on the anti-monopoly coalition movement.

"LEW said that he thought some of this was good, and some of it not good. He thought mostly we had to back independent labor candidates no matter where they were.

"JOHN HOVAN reported that in Rhode Island there was a split in the Democratic Party and that one of the Democrats had introduced a Right To Work law in the legislature. He reported that in Rhode Island this FRED DRESTOR (ph.) who is an American First-er, got FRED HARTLEY in the Rhode Island legislature to introduce this Right To Work law, and that nationally there was a campaign underway for the Right To Work law.

"FRAN HOOD reported that in Roxbury they had formed, along with some of the negro people, a neighborhood improvement association which was giving them a wonderful opportunity to work with the negroes to improve the streets and to generally clean up the neighborhood. She said she was working in that group with other comrades and hoped eventually this would mature into a basis for political activity with these people. She said that right now it is a community project, and the purpose was to improve the neighborhood appearance.

"PHIL KORITZ spoke on the unemployment situation. He said that within the State there was a lack of funds and we needed to instigate some emergency legislation for unemployment; that there were so many people drawing on unemployment

BS 100-7908

"compensation the funds were becoming used up. He thought it was a good idea to call upon the Massachusetts Legislature to support the additional thirteen weeks unemployment compensation as proposed by President EISENHOWER.

"BOBBY said that in developing an anti-monopoly coalition in all our areas we should be looking for members of unions who could run for public office.

"JOHN HOVAN said they had their first bus strike in twenty years in Rhode Island, and all this business of the HCUA was to head off the struggle among the people as unemployment got worse.

"BOBBY suggested that the important thing for us to do was for the Party to get politically minded again and give some thought on who we will endorse and who we want endorsed. He said we had to try to get the backing of the trade unions and at the same time we needed to back trade unions in their selections. He said what is important for us are the issues, not the maneuvers, in regard to RUDSTEIN and FURCOLO. He said that the people in Dorchester should try to get RUDSTEIN to take a position on some of the issues that will be coming up, regardless of any opposition they may have to RUDSTEIN.

"ELBA CHASE NELSON, who is HOMER CHASE'S mother, passed around a newspaper clipping which was a letter that HOMER had published in one of the issues of the Manchester paper last week. This letter stated his platform. She made the comment that he might not win the election but his letter had set a precedent. She said that since HOMER's letter, Selectmen from other New Hampshire towns had sent in letters setting forth their platform, and that this was something candidates for Selectman had never bothered to do before.

"BEN injected the thought that we should consider any individual connected with committees such as the HCUA and the State Commission as someone we don't want to back, and don't want other people to back. He said we should point out to voters that this is merely a way to manufacture campaign issues.

"Our next meeting is April 13. We will go to HOOD-S first and then go elsewhere. JOHN HOVAN said he would not be able to be there so they asked him if he couldn't send a

"substitute. He agreed that he could send a substitute from Rhode Island in his place.


"Also at this meeting ELBA CHASE NELSON had the March 1958 issue of 'New Hampshire Profiles', in which there appeared an article entitled 'The Loneliest People in New Hampshire'. It was an article about the CHASES, their Communist activities, and about the father's history of activity. The article also had pictures of the father's gravestone showing the hammer and sickel. The article also noted that Mrs. ELBA CHASE NELSON was Russian born.

"ANN passed out 'Worker' cards of subscribers to 'The Worker' in the various areas. These people were to be contacted for renewals. On the North Shore, ANN passed out a yellow card for:

"SOL FISHER  


"The following also appeared on this card: -2-24-58-M-RS-W.

"A white card was also passed out by ANN, bearing the following:

"LEWIS GORDON,  


The letter mentioned herein from Mrs. LOUISE DeGREGORY follows:

"Dear Friend:

"The New Hampshire Supreme Court has upheld the conviction of my husband, Hugo DeGregory, for contempt of court. It has ruled the NH Immunity Law to be constitutional.

BS 100-7908

"This 1955 law provides that any witness appearing before the state probe of 'subversive activities' who invokes the 5th Amendment can be granted state immunity compelling him to answer any question about himself and others that the Attorney-General might pose.

"The law strips a citizen of New Hampshire of his privilege against possible self-incrimination. It offers state immunity only. It gives no immunity from federal law for disclosures in a field which federal courts have ruled is pre-eminently under federal law. A witness exercising his constitutional right to protect himself thus faces the following dilemma - to comply means jeopardy, to refuse means jail 'until such time as you shall purge yourself of contempt.'

"My husband chose to challenge the law. Since November, 1955, he has made 4 appearances before the NH Supreme Court. A strenuous fight had to be waged just to win the right to bail. After 15 days in jail, he is now at liberty under \$10,000 bond, double surety.

"The majority of the state Supreme Court has upheld the law. The outspoken dissent, however, characterized the decision as a 'travesty on verity', a 'subterfuge . . . recognizing fiction as reality' and as exposing 'the witness to the very danger which our Constitution guarantees he shall not be required to face.'

"Att.-Gen. Wyman has made clear the significance of the decision. The use of state immunity laws would compel 'full disclosure state by state from those who until now have frustrated the entire nation by hiding behind the 5th Amendment.' (NH AP 12/18/57)

"Over 2 years of involved litigation has meant a constant and cumulative financial burden. Together with the help of friends, of individuals concerned and the Bill of Rights Fund we have up to now managed to meet the legal costs.

"Now we face the necessity of a costly appeal to the US Supreme Court. Approximately \$1500 is needed. We cannot allow this decision and the precedent it establishes to stand. We are confident we can win this appeal.

BS 100-7908

"Can you help us in this final effort to vindicate my husband and thus re-establish the constitutional safeguards he is defending.

"Sincerely yours,

"Mrs. Louise DeGregory"

The article in the March 5, 1958 issue of the Beverly Evening Times, Page 1, entitled "Reid - Post Machine Firm on Half-Time Work Plan" and the article in the March 8 issue of the Boston Herald, Page 8 and continuation on Page 14, mentioned herein, will be found in [REDACTED]

An autostat copy of the "Resolution On John Gates" adopted by the National Committee, 2/15/58, and an autostat copy of "On Uniting and Strengthening the Party and Its Mass Work," self-described as a resolution submitted by E. DENNIS and adopted by the National Committee on 2/15/58 as received by informant from ROBERT GOODWIN, 3/8/58, both appropriately identified by [REDACTED] are being placed in [REDACTED]. The original copy of each document was returned to [REDACTED] for use in informant's section on 3/17/58. Previous availability of these documents to interested offices was noted in other communications, copies of which had been furnished Boston for its information.

All necessary action has been taken with respect to information furnished above.

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OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC (100-14203) DATE: April 16, 1958  
FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: NAT SHELMAN  
SECURITY MATTER - C

From : [REDACTED]  
Concealment and Reliability : T- , who has furnished reliable information in the past  
Date and Description : Social visit with NAT and ANDREA SHELMAN, Peabody, Massachusetts, March 20, 1958, & which miscellaneous CP matters discussed  
Date Received : March 27, 1958  
Received By : SA [REDACTED]  
Location : [REDACTED]

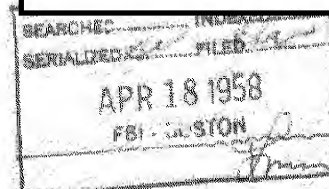
In view of the sensitivity of this informant, the utmost care must be utilized to carefully paraphrase this information prior to dissemination in order to protect the identity of this informant.

Informant's written report, dated March 24, 1958, follows:

cc:

[REDACTED]  
100-11772  
100-32353  
100-13373  
[REDACTED]  
100-27552  
[REDACTED]  
(HCUA, New England Area)  
[REDACTED]  
(Armando Penha)  
[REDACTED]

LMM; cak





BS 100-14203

"March 24, 1958

"Thursday, March 20 - My wife and I spent the evening with NAT and ANDRE SHELMAN at their home in Peabody.

"While there NAT said to me that it is a strange thing that neither my wife or I have been called before a committee investigating commission.

"He said that we both have attended many functions in Boston where we would have been seen by authorities.

"I explained to him that the functions he referred to were meetings which were open to anyone regardless of what their political thinking might be and it would be foolish to accuse me of being a Communist on those grounds.

"NAT also said that he was surprised that my brother-in-law's name had not come out in the papers even though he was to appear before the sub-committee of the House Un-American Committee.

"I explained to him that my brother-in-law had not at the time testified and that after he did testify his name would appear which it has.

"NAT said that he is attending Lowell Tech taking an engineering course which will be two years from start to finish and will not give him a diploma but the knowledge gained will be helpful.

"We discussed setting up a fund for BOB GOODWIN who has an ailment which apparently will incapacitate him when it progresses more.

"NAT said he would go into one of the Lynn banks and find out about the 'bank-by-mail' plan whereby we could supply envelopes and deposit slips to those people who wish to contribute to this fund so that they could mail them direct to the bank.

"While there we listened to some of the broadcast of the House Un-American hearings over Radio Station WBZ.

"ANDRE said that she could not explain how ARMANDO PENHA ever got into the Party. She said some people in the Party have been lax and that there are more people like PENHA in the Party. She said that was why she is no longer in the Party.

BS 100-14203

"ANDRE told of the story in the papers whereby Mr. PENHA related how he was to meet another person in New York and they were to identify each other by carrying a copy of 'Popular Mechanics' magazine.

"ANDRE said that the incident was true. She said of all people to send the Party sends ARMANDO PENHA.

"NAT said that he will call me when he gets the information needed to set up the fund for BOB GOODWIN."

All necessary action has been taken with respect to information furnished above.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

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TO : SAC (100-14203)

DATE: 4/23/58

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: NAT SHELMAN  
SM - C

From

:

Concealment and  
Reliability

:

T- , who has furnished  
reliable information in  
the past.

Date and  
Description

:

Social visit with NAT and ANDREA  
SHELMAN, Peabody, Mass.,  
3/20/58, at which miscellaneous  
CP matters discussed.

Date Received : 3/31/58

Received By

:

SA [REDACTED]

Location

:

In view of the sensitivity of this informant, the utmost care must  
be utilized to carefully paraphrase this information prior to  
dissemination in order to protect the identity of this informant.

Informant's written report, dated March 25, 1958, follows:

cc: 2 - New York (RM)  
(100-92914  
(100-89525

2 - San Francisco (RM)  
(100-36248 JOSEPH FIGUETREDO  
(100-36055

14 - Boston (100-14203)

[REDACTED]  
100-16245  
100-18475  
100-32  
100-13130  
100-11198  
100-11772  
100-22353  
[REDACTED]  
100-8099  
100-27552  
100-24498  
100-24904

JOE FIGUETREDO

HCUA, New England Area  
ARMANDO PENHA

LMM:cm  
(19)

[REDACTED]

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 24 1958	
FBI - BOSTON	

[REDACTED]

"Tues March 25, 1958

"On Thurs, evening March 20, 1958, Charlie & Elsie Piper visited at Andre\_ & Nat Shelmans home 66 Franklin St., Peabody Mass.

"They were taken on a tour of the house to be shown the improvements Nat had made since Elsie last visited.

"Nat has done their bathroom over in Pink Plastic Tile. Also was doing over the upstairs hall in square tiles - either linoleum or rubberized tile. He had to remove some as they were a different shade of grey then he started out with.

"Afterwards Charlie went down stairs with Nat to be shown something in cellar. Elsie & Andree sat in the living room and discussed the House-Un-American Committees hearings going on in Boston.

"Andree said the party was to blame for some of what was happening. They had been warned about Penha. In fact She & Nat had been very much against him when they were in New Bedford. They hadn't liked the way he was brought into the party in the beginning. Joe Figgortial (Ph.) had brought him in. He Penha - had to be protected etc. Then he had stolen money that was Daily Worker funds. Had been kicked out of the party. And then after repaying the money had been allowed back into the party again. She also understood he had stolen money from the John Hancock Insurance Co. in Boston before he ever was a member of the party.

"They had sent him into the South to meet people and all foolish things like that. Think of all the poor people and negros he can name. It was the party's fault -- because they'd been given plenty of warning about him and over a long period of time.

"She thought it was funny that Elsie & Charlie hadn't been named. Elsie told her she couldn't ever remember running into either of the people who were testifying for the Gov't. Also we do some foolish things security-wise. Elsie said she knew a lot of people in Boston and had attended affairs in Boston. Some of which Andree had attended with her. She said one thing she never had done at any public meeting was to call attention to herself. She thought it was a foolish thing to do and on occasion had refused to ask pointed questions at public affairs. Andree knew how often some of our people get up at these things. Stand up in the middle of an Audience -- make a speech and just put a spot

"light on themself. That was something Andree or no one else could ever remember her doing. Also the fact that you attend an affair thats open to the public, doesn't mean that you'r a member of the Communist Party. The only possible thing they might have on her was her activity in The Minute Women. The day following their being cited as Subversive, She and another girl had gone to the bank and closed out the account. Since that time she hadn't seen many of them. Many times she'd like to visit with them, because she was very fond of and friends with them. She would have liked to see Flo Tamsky when she was on from N.Y. but wouldn't have gone into Boston to visit her, as much as she'd like to see her and her children.

"Andree said Flo had stayed with her a couple of days last summer. She was having problems with her mother. Her oldest boy has a slight cerebral Palsey condition but he's having therapy and getting along fine.

"Herm was still having difficulties, he was working in a small machine shop. The wages were poor and Flo left here with the impression that living expenses were very high in N.Y. She (Andree) thought they were having a tough time of it.

"Elsie said if Flo was ever visiting her again she'd love to see her. Andree thought she (Flo) might come on again in the spring or early summer and She (Andree) would let her know.

"Elsie said -- another stupid thing -- when Kate was around she decided it was alright to phone people. She (Elsie) and a couple of other people thought it was a little premature and had kicked about that. She (Elsie) still didn't phone anyone in the party from her house and never has. She thought it just plain stupid for them to call her from their home -- and they have. And when the H.U.A.A. Committee in Boston can announce that they have 300 more names they can name and will be back again. There isn't any doubt but what several people who havn't been named will be on that list. She knew for a fact she and Bobbie had to go further away to a pay station then half the people in Boston who made calls, but they did it, because then no one could tie you in directly with anyone else.

"Nat and Charlie came back and joined Andree & Elsie. Nat expressed some surprise over the fact that Charlie's brother-in-laws (Elsie's brother) name had not appeared in the papers since he'd been Subpoenaed.

"Charlie said he hadn't testified as yet. But it would appear after he did no doubt.

"There was some comment about the fact that he was the only one on the North Shore to receive a subpoena.

"Nat asked if Leo Geaudreau or Ray Austin had been called.

"Charlie said he had talked to Phil and so far as they knew he was the only one called from the North Shore.

"Elsie didn't know why he had been called he wasn't named by either of the witnesses. She thought Since it had been announced that the committee was investigating how propaganda got into this country, he would be asked about his trip to Russia and the book he wrote. At least that was what most people expected.

"Nat said he was attending Lowell Tech, and taking an engineering course. Elsie asked if it would give him a degree of any sort or help towards one. Nat said no, it wouldn't give him credits towards a diploma or degree of any kind. But the knowledge gained would be very useful in business.

"We discussed setting up a fund for Bob Goodwin.

"Nat suggested Charlie go into one of the Danvers banks and inquire. Elsie objected stating she didn't think Charlie should especially in the town where he works. What about Peabody couldn't Nat do that. Nat demurred. Then Elsie suggested Nat should inquire in Lynn. If the Fund was to be made available for Bob's use and due to his physical condition. It might be better to have it in a bank more easily reached by Bob if and when he needs it.

"We discussed people who had been told about it and their reaction - Vic, his suggestion for setting up the fund as a backlog against the day when Bob will have to earn his livelihood in a different manor then he's now doing.



"His apparent indifference and making light of Bobs condition.

"Andys reaction to this was She'd been working in hospitals part of her life and she knew what the outcome was, Vic made her sick he had a couple old Medical Books he consulted -- even took them up to Bob & Millie and he just didn't know what he was talking about. Finally they agreed that the four of them would start such a fund. Let other people know about it, and let them do what they wanted to on it.

"We discussed some of the mechanics of the thing such as, setting up a fund in a way not to involve people by name etc.

"Nat thought Charlie should open a joint account with Bob -- Elsie objected -- saying why tie Charlie in that close to Bob -- a joint account should be with someone like yourself who has already been identified with Bob -- Saying Charlie was active in his union -- also on the Dem. City Committee. She objected to Charlie's being that closley identified with Bob --

"Then Nat thought we should set up just something called 'A Bob Fund'. Elsie thought if you set up a trust fund of any kind you had to designate who or what it was for. Maybe they could get legal advise from someone.

"Finally it was decided that Nat go into a bank in Lynn and make some inquires into the thing see if the bank could supply us with envelopes which people could use to send money to the fund without names being involved. In the meantime they are going ahead and letting people know what they have in mind.

"While there we listened to some of the rebroadcast of the H.U.A.A. Comm. hearings on Radio Station W.B.Z.

"Everytime we listened to Penha, Andree was upset. She said She couldn't explain or understand how Penha got into the Party. She said some people in the party were so lax and there were more people in the party just like him. That was why she had gotten out. She said she knew one that she was sure would do the same thing.

"Elsie asked if it was anyone she knew she'd like to stirr clear of them. Andree said no it was no one she knew. She said all the stupid jackasses that Joe Figerrito was one. Elsie asked if Penha was at the party for Eula Figgerito before she left for Poland. Andree said not that she knew of - that was another thing Joe had done -- got messed up with Joy Clark. They were in California now and good riddance to both of them.

"Charlie asked about the story in the newspapers telling how Penha made several changes on the subways of N.Y. and met another party member identifying themselves by carrying magazines and asked if it was true. (I think the newspaper article said Popular Mechanics)

"Andree -- said 'of course its true you have no idea of the stupid things that were done' of all people to send the Party sends Armand Penha -- and after they had been warned about him. Not only on trips like that -- but into the South too.'

"Nat said he would get in touch with us as soon as he has information on setting up a fund for Bob Goodwin."

All necessary action has been taken with respect to information furnished above.

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SAC (100-20779)

Attention: SA [REDACTED]

4/23/58

SA [REDACTED]

CP, USA -  
ORGANIZATION

Re memo of SA [REDACTED] dated 3/3/58.

On April 2, 1958, ARMANDO PEREZ, Source of Information, advised he has had no information from Communist Party leaders since February, 1956. However, based upon his previous experience, he stated he believed the only persons in New Bedford who would still be members of the Communist Party would be DOUGLAS M. PERRY, MARY FINKELBERG, JOHN CORSEIRO, ROY ROBINSON and FALMUDA ROBINSON.

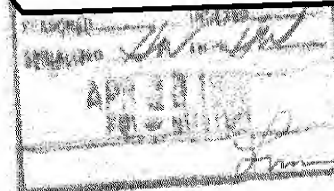
On April 3, 1958, [REDACTED] advised that the only members he actually knows of at present in Fall River are JAMES REX and ERNEST ARNET.

cc: 100-24208  
100-11637  
100-14566  
100-17614  
100-22487

[REDACTED]  
100-15625  
100-17930

ARMANDO PEREZ

JED:cm  
(11)



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SAC, NEW HAVEN (100-16937)

April 21, 1958

SAC, BOSTON (100-17785)

JAMES BRAZ  
SM - C

Reurlet March 4, 1958 forwarding photographs obtained from  
JEROME GOLDENBERG, Manager, Loring Studios, Hartford, Conn.

ARMANDO PENHA, former [redacted] on April 11, 1958 was shown  
a photograph forwarded in relet and stated that this photo-  
graph is definitely not captioned individual. PENHA advised  
SA [redacted] that he had seen BRAZ at least fifty  
times and that there was no question in his mind that the  
photograph was that of an individual other than BRAZ.  
Accordingly, copies of these photographs furnished in  
relet are being destroyed by the Boston Office.

The foregoing is being furnished for the completion of  
your files.

2 - New Haven (100-16937)(RM)  
2 - Boston  
1 (100-17785)  
1 [redacted]

LMM:RW  
(4)

*Lmm*

[redacted]

*[Signature]*



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b7E

4/15/58

PLAIN TEXT

AIRTEL

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-372696)  
FROM : SAC, BOSTON [REDACTED]  
SUBJECT: ARMANDO PENHA  
Former [REDACTED]

In discussion of captioned individual at meeting of District Committee, CP, USA, New England District, held 4/13/58, ANNE BURLAK TIMPSON stated that she had heard that OLGA GARCZYNSKI might sue PENHA. This matter was not further elaborated upon by TIMPSON. It was also stated by PHILIP KORITZ that it was his understanding PENHA had once threatened to kill OLGA. KORITZ did not further explain his remark.

It was unanimously voted at this meeting that a leaflet on PENHA be gotten out immediately for distribution in the New Bedford, Mass. area.

Boston will immediately advise Bureau in the event of development of any additional information concerning the above, which was orally furnished by [REDACTED] on 4/14/58. DS will contact PENHA re KORITZ. Stated [REDACTED] on 4/14/58. DS will contact LAUGHLIN.

2 - Bureau (100-372696) (RM)  
3 - Boston [REDACTED]  
(1- [REDACTED])  
(1- 100-15407 [REDACTED])

LMN:cm  
(6)

[REDACTED]



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b7E

OFFICE MEMORANDUM - U. S. GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC (100-7908) DATE: May 12, 1958  
FROM : SA [REDACTED]  
SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA,  
NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT  
IS - C

From : [REDACTED]  
Concealment and Reliability : T- , who has furnished reliable information in the past  
Date and Description : Meeting District Committee, CP, USA, New England District, 4/13/58, Roxbury, Mass.  
Date Received : Orally received 4/14/58.  
Acknowledged by [REDACTED] 4/30/58  
Received by : SA [REDACTED]  
Location : [REDACTED]

In view of the sensitivity of this informant, the utmost care must be utilized to carefully paraphrase this information prior to dissemination in order to protect the identity of this informant.

cc: 1 - New York (100-87211) (CP, USA, FACTIONALISM) (RM)  
1 - San Francisco (100-36248) [REDACTED] (RM)  
1 - Los Angeles (100-42126) (SIDNEY LIPSHIRES) (RM)  
63 - Boston (100-7908)

[REDACTED]  
100-3893 AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE  
100-775 HOMER B. CHASE  
100-18589 [REDACTED] Indexed to 100-7908  
100-10230 [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] CAROL FOSTER  
100-18475 [REDACTED]  
100-11537 [REDACTED]  
100-32 JOSEPH FIGUEIREDO  
100-15407 [REDACTED]  
100-11772 [REDACTED]  
100-313 [REDACTED]  
100-32392 GREATER BOSTON COMMITTEE FOR  
A SANE NUCLEAR POLICY  
(Boston copies continued Page 1A.)

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BS 100-7908

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ACUA, NEW ENGLAND AREA

SIDNEY LIPSHIRES

MASS. COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE COMMUNISM

ARMANDO PENHA

MIKE RUSSO

CP - ATTEMPTS TO INFILTRATE  
MASS. ORGANIZATIONS

CP - ORGANIZATION

CP - FUNDS

CP - SECURITY MEASURES

CP - FACTIONALISM

CP - INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

CP - POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

CP - LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

CP - DOMESTIC ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

CP - STRATEGY IN INDUSTRY

CP - NEGRO QUESTION

CP - PAMPHLETS & PUBLICATIONS

CP - ROXBURY

CP - DORCHESTER

CP - RHODE ISLAND

CP - SPRINGFIELD

CP - NEW BEDFORD - FALL RIVER

CP - MAINE

FREEDOM OF PRESS ASSOCIATION

UTWA

BS 100-7908

Informant's report, dated April 14, 1958, follows:

"April 14, 1958

"On April 13, 1958, a District Committee meeting of the New England Communist Party was held at the home of OTIS HOOD, 33 Fayston Street, Roxbury, Massachusetts. Those who attended are as follows:

"OTIS and FRANCES HOOD  
DAN SCHIRMER  
HOMER CHASE  
LEW JOHNSON  
ELSIE PIPER  
PHIL KORTZ  
BOB GOODWIN  
ANNE TIMPSON

"Missing from the District Committee meeting were JOHN HOVAN from Rhode Island, 'HANK' GROSSMAN from Worcester, BEN LANDEY from Sharon and MIKE RUSSO.

"There was some discussion as to whether we should call MIKE or send somebody for him, and the opinion was that we should not call him from the house. Some thought he knew about the meeting and others expressed some doubt as to whether he knew as he had left the previous District Committee meeting early and perhaps did not know about it.

"As to BEN LANDEY, no one knew why he had not shown up. Some thought he might have had some activity for the day.

"As to JOHN HOVAN, it was reported that he had lost his job in Rhode Island and that his wife was very upset about his being called before the HCUA. ANNE said she understood that JOHN's wife heard fire engines go by, thought it was the police calling for JOHN and became hysterical. No one seemed to know why 'HANK' from Worcester did not attend.

"The agenda was set up as follows:

"#1 - A discussion on the Resolution submitted by EUGENE DENNIS, adopted by the National Committee, 2/15/58, entitled, 'On Uniting and Strengthening the Party and Its Mass Work'

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- "#2 - Political Action
- #3 - Report on Hearings
- #4 - Peace Question
- #5 - 'The Worker' Drive

"ELSIE turned in \$12.65 to ANNE TIMPSON, Treasurer of the District Committee. This was collected from the North Shore Section for the Southern Solidarity Bonds.

"On the discussion on the Resolution, HOMER said he accepted it. PHIL reported that in his club they understood there would be a minority report on the Resolution, but that it had not been published as yet in any of the Party publications. He said the Club was interested in obtaining a copy of the minority report before coming to a decision on the Resolution.

"ELSIE commented that they had discussed the Resolution in her section, and that they had voted to accept it with the reservation that they could change their vote if the minority report, when received, added anything to their thinking. BOB reported that they had made such reservation because of present unavailability of the minority report and the feeling that the minority report might well add to their thinking on the matter.

"A decision was made that everyone would have ten minutes to discuss the Resolution.

"HOMER CHASE spoke and said he did not oppose the publication of a minority report, but on the other hand he could not see with a majority report, any necessity to have a minority report too. He said the Resolution was very important, and that it was a definite move toward unity in the Party. He thought that particularly, item 3, Page 2 of the Resolution was very important:

" '3. Particularly noteworthy, is the stress of the National Convention. . .'

"He said it was important at this time to strengthen the position of leadership, and necessary to have democratic centralism. He stated he thought the fifth paragraph under item 3, 'The mass party of socialism. . .', was a little hazy. He said that we had to follow a policy of coalition,

"wherever possible, on issues. HOMER said that the opportunity for building the Party was here today. He thought the confusion about the so-called right danger in the Party had been exhibited before the HCUA hearings in Boston, and that a great many people, particularly the people from the District Committee, should have taken a more militant stand. He said if they had they could have driven the HCUA out of Boston. He said he believed that the remnants of the right danger in the Party had hurt the struggle for civil rights in America, and stressed that his feeling was that the main danger is the right danger within the Party.

"BOB CROSWIN stated he thought the Resolution had been good, that finally the National Committee had taken a majority and minority vote on a policy. BOB said he was in favor of both a minority and majority opinion being given, and that the thing we had to watch out for was that when a majority decision was made the minority just did not sit back and do nothing. He said that right now, the minority has refused to serve, and if the Party were going to succeed it would not succeed in that way. He said that MIKE had indicated that the minority on the National Committee was just going to sit back and wait.

"DAN spoke and he agreed with HOMER, that right opportunism at the hearings should be criticized. He said he realized that he, himself, did not take as militant a position as he should have at the hearings. He said that without any doubt we had not prepared him very much for the hearings; that he should have gone in and fought for the position of the Communists, and that instead he behaved in a manner which more or less protected his job. He accepted HOMER's criticism that there were mistakes made at the hearing and he felt that the right danger had to be fought. He disagreed with HOMER on the Resolution and said that there should be adequate discussion of both sides. He said he did not agree with the Resolution, that there was a contradiction when it said the Communist Party was not a holding operation. He stated he thought it depended on what you meant by a holding operation. He said that when you decide that the Party was here to stay, and there was no doubt in his mind but that the Party was here to stay, you were holding on to Socialism in this country. He said the Party was a holding operation and also believed there should be a minority report.



"ANNE TIMPSON gave some background on how the Resolution developed. She said the vote was 32 for the Resolution, 20 against, and 3 abstentions. She said years ago a majority decision was really a majority decision with very few people in opposition. She said, however, that in this case the vote was 32 to 20, that the 20 who had voted against it must have had very valid reasons, and that because of the closeness of the vote the minority report should be made available to the membership. She said of herself, that anybody who knew her knew she had been an enthusiastic member of the Party for years. That in previous years, on a policy or any major issue she was always in complete agreement. She said, however, there were some things in the Resolution that required further discussion before she came to any real conclusion.

"ELSIE spoke on the Resolution. She thought it was pretty good and that we should accept it, although not without qualification, because for the first time we had a majority decision. She said her qualification involved the present unavailability of the minority report which she would want to study before giving the Resolution a blanket acceptance. She said there were some things in the Resolution she did not understand. She thought the Resolution presented issues that we should all be concerning ourselves with -- extension of the movement for summit negotiations of the Big Powers, for the outlawing of nuclear weapons, for disarmament, expansion of East-West trade, the Negro-labor alliance and Negro people's movement for the right to vote -- but that occasionally there was a little confusion between theory and tactics. She was not ready to discuss it further until she had given it more thought.

"LEW JOHNSON spoke. He said he thought the Resolution was good. He said that right opportunism had been a danger but thought in some instances that left-sectarianism was a danger too. He said, however, there was no doubt in his mind as to the greater danger because of the demonstrated right tendencies in the Party in the recent months. It had created a situation where people had not gone up to the hearings with the same militancy that they would have if right opportunism had not been in existence. He said he was affected by right opportunism himself, that the question of his job and the care of his family was of concern in regard to his own activities, and that he realized that this was right opportunism. He said we

"had to examine our vanguard role and that one of the things we had to discuss was just how the Party was going to operate.

"OTIS HOOD spoke on the Resolution and said he thought it was good as far as it went. He did not think it mapped out enough of a program. He thought we were faced with a continued crisis of leadership in the Party. He thought that we first had to determine what kind of a program we were going to have, what kind of an analysis can we make, what is facing the masses in this country. He thought the three most important things facing the Party today were (1) the question of peace, (2) the question of continued struggle in the South for the negroes' right to vote, and (3) as to the labor movement -- what role were they going to play, how were we going to work with them, how were we to obtain a peaceful development to Socialism in the United States. He thought it was necessary for us to move into the field of political action on these questions, and that we should be thinking in terms of arranging contact with the people. We have people in the labor movement who are no longer in organized contact with us, and who do not want us to see them. He asked how are we going to manage to work with these people. He thought that we should be examining more the tactics with which we can influence people.

"PHIL KORITZ spoke. He said the Communist Party was a Marxist-Leninist Party and not a Marxist Party, of which there are others around. He said the Communist Party was a Marxist-Leninist Party and furthered the idea of the working class becoming the leading class in the country. He thought the Resolution was good but would like to have more discussion on it in his club. He said that there were certain movements taking place today with which we should be attuned. He mentioned the auto workers in Michigan where, he said, Communist Party members were speaking out on issues. He thought that the Party had to develop a position and program on some of the issues that are facing the American workers today. He thought there were two issues facing us -- (1) How does the Communist Party member work as an individual, and (2) How does the Party as a collective group work?

"FRAN HOOD said she agreed with HOMER that the prestige of the Party was higher today than it was a year or two ago, but there was one question she wished the District Committee would take up as she was always faced with it -- How do we work? She thought the Resolution was good. She thought there was much in it she wanted to give more thought to, and that the minority report, when published, might alter her entire opinion. She said that the minority report was essential, and that at the 10th Convention it had been decided they would publish, particularly on policy making resolutions, a majority report and a minority report. She said that this was one of the means of operating against the bureaucracy that existed. She thought it essential to have the minority report. All had the general feeling that there should be a minority report. No action was taken on the Resolution pending receipt of the minority report.

"The next point on the agenda, 'Political Action,' was put aside and the third point, 'Report on the Hearings,' by ANNE TIMPSON, was taken up. ANNE gave a resume of some of the things we had discussed at a previous District Committee meeting. She said that we had made an accurate estimate of the reasons for the HCUA coming into Boston, that one was the possibility of getting an extension for the State Commission which has been given since the hearings took place.

"In reporting JOHN HOVAN's absence, ANNE stated that New Bedford had been one of the hardest hit areas at this hearing, and that one of the estimations we had made before was that they were coming in to pick on industrial areas. She said it was a union-busting tactic, and that another thing to consider was the unemployment situation in New Bedford, about the worst in the State, and the Committee's publicity had taken away the spotlight from that situation. She said that it was our original estimate that PENHA would be used and that was borne out. She said that some of the experiences with the House Committee showed that it would have been possible to take a more militant stand. ANNE wondered how OLGA was faring and said that she had been very, very courageous. ANNE stated that as a result of the Committee's appearance several jobs had been lost in New Bedford and in Rhode Island, and that in Boston, JOE SHERMAN had lost his job. She said Party expenses as a result of the Committee's

"appearance were around \$300.00, and that of this sum we still had to raise about \$167.00. She did not know what it cost people for their lawyers.

"There followed some discussion on her report: HOMER brought up PENHA. He stated he thought that we should examine how a guy like PENHA could get into our ranks, or how a dame like this FOSTER woman could do the same thing. We should examine their lives. There were certain things we should have questioned in regards to their activity, that PENHA had run around with this OLGA. OTIS stated that if you were going to do that, then examine the lives of our National Committee members, they aren't much better. OTIS asked who was responsible for PENHA's getting into the organization. HOMER said he had talked to his brothers, JOE and OLIVER, and had gotten their opinion that SID LIPSHIRES had been responsible. HOMER said these people drive around in big cars and that sort of thing, and make certain statements they can't prove, like bringing people into the Party who don't exist.

"ANNE said she did not think we should blame SID LIPSHIRES for bringing PENHA into the Party, that he had been in the Party and had been kicked out of the Party, that he had stolen about \$200.00 of funds that belonged to the Party and had come back very contrite when the Party was raising funds for EULA FIGUEIREDO. FRAN HOOD said she understood it was JOE FIGUEIREDO who had brought PENHA into the Party. There was some comment about looking up his record with the John Hancock Insurance Company, and HOMER said, 'You can't do that.' The comment was in relation to the belief that PENHA had stolen money from that Company. This belief was expressed by PHIL KORITZ.

"DAN wondered about some difficulty PENHA had been in with a hardware company, and whether you could prove it. He said all of these things were things that they have developed without proof, and that the Party should have kept track of him better than they did."

(Informant was unable to further advise concerning SCHIRMER's reference to PENHA's difficulty with a hardware company.)

"ANNE TIMPSON spoke. She said, 'Let's give the devil his due. It was MIKE who finally caught up with this guy.'



"She stated that ARMANDO PENHA had said he had brought five people into the Party and, when asked to produce these people, gave everyone the run-around. He kept saying that they did not want to meet with MIKE or ANNE, and after MIKE finally said if they don't want to meet with us, let them meet with someone else, he was dropped when they were not produced. She said it was very unfair to say that SID LIPSHIRES had brought him into the Party. She said that SID had come along and carried the ball for him and used him as a wonderful example, but when a guy has stolen money from the Party they should have just kept him out. She said, however, that he returned during the time they were raising funds for EULA FIGUEIREDO and they thought he could work with the foreign born.

"ANNE reported that we should go down to New Bedford and see this OLGA. She understood that at one time her family had been trying to stop her from going with this PENHA, not for Party reasons but because of other factors. She said she had heard that OLGA might sue him and someone should see how she was faring. FRAN made the comment that it was easy to see how SID LIPSHIRES and PENHA had been so close because SID's life itself at one time had not been too clean.

"About this time in the discussion of PENHA, ANNE said right now there were two people who were suspected. She stated that at the Hearings they expected the Government had two more friendly witnesses, NOSHER because he had been seen going into the Committee rooms, and ARMSTEAD. ANNE asked, 'How do we cope with this situation?' When ANNE identified ARMSTEAD as an individual who had been observed sitting as a spectator at the Hearings, DANIEL BOONE SCHIRMER said he had not heard that ARMSTEAD had been there. He stated that he had seen a colored fellow by the name of HOLMES there and that maybe someone was mistaken as to ARMSTEAD's presence. ELSIE in an aside asked FRAN HOOD, 'Who is ARMSTEAD?' FRAN identified him as an individual who, at one of the New England Convention sessions, kept taking notes and appeared to be overly anxious to go to the National Convention when no one wanted to go. She said he had been close to BILL HARRISON and everyone wondered why BILL HARRISON had not been called to that Hearing. FRAN then asked openly why BILL HARRISON was not called, that he was subpoenaed, but not called. ANNE said, 'Nobody knows yet why he was not called, even his lawyer does not know why he was dismissed.' ANNE



"said they wondered if it had anything to do with his connection with ARMSTEAD. DAN said, 'No,' that he thought the reason no colored people were called was because the Committee was afraid to call colored people up because of the situation in the South. He said that MARY FIGUEIREDO had also been dismissed. ANNE said MARY FIGUEIREDO had been dismissed because she had had a breast removed. ANNE said it was not malignant but that she did not feel well.

"ELSIE then asked, 'What do you do in a situation that I found myself in?' ELSIE asked BOBBY if she could name names and he said, 'No.' ELSIE then continued by stating that in her section at one time there were a couple from New Bedford, not now Party members, who had a lot of doubts about this PENHA. She said she had occasion to talk to this couple during the recent Hearings and they informed her about some of the things that made them suspect this PENHA. She said they expressed the thought that JOE FIGUEIREDO brought him back into the Party. They also informed ELSIE that they knew someone else whom they predicted would do the same thing. ANNE asked ELSIE if this person was on the North Shore or New Bedford, and ELSIE said she believed 'New Bedford.' ELSIE asked, 'What do you do in a situation like that?' She also said that when the Minute Women were active, there was one woman who became rather suspect, and when the Minute Women dissolved, she disassociated herself from such person. FRAN then said in an aside to ELSIE, 'That was VERA LAMSON. HELEN and LAURA O'BRIEN had a lot of doubts about her.' ELSIE continued by stating that naturally when you begin to suspect someone, it is because of something they have done or said. ELSIE stated the suspicion they had about this woman developed out of the fact that she had asked things others would not ask, as, 'Do you belong to the Communist Party?' She would also ask for lists to take home and work on. ELSIE said no one had warned her, and that although you should be real sure when suspecting someone, there nevertheless, should be some means of tipping people off closely associated with such person so that they could govern themselves accordingly.

"ANNE said that there was someone else in New Bedford whom they suspected in addition to ARMSTEAD. She said she was not ready to say who he was, but that he was

"ARNOLD said that out of the Conference grew the suggestion that we might be able to have a peace party -- sort of a one-time affair -- to be built along the lines of the Prohibition Party. The party would not have any political line, that it would just be a party for peace. The party would be for one election only and would not be a continuous thing. It would be a one-time attempt for peace that would cross all party lines.

"Also, during the dinner, JOHN HOVAN mentioned that he had had a very interesting experience. On the way to the meeting he had picked up a young man on the highway and had given him a ride in his car. He was the son of Professor SMITH, a Socialist, at Brown University. They discussed Socialism on the way in. He gave the young man his name and address and they planned to look each other up. BOBBIE told JOHN he should put the young man in touch with STRUIK.

"ELSIE spoke to BOB and asked him why he hadn't brought up Mrs. FINKLE's accusation and get it out in the open. ELSIE said she wanted very much to have it discussed at the District Committee. BOB said, 'No,' that they had better discuss it in the Section, and that besides SOL would be home soon.

"ELSIE was in the kitchen at this time and had a copy of the 'Eleventh Report of the Special Commission Established to Study and Investigate Communism and Subversive Activities and Related Matters in the Commonwealth' dated January 27, 1958, which she had received from DAN SCHIRMER. He had a few copies he passed around and she got one of them. ANNE asked ELSIE, 'How come your name did not get published in this? They published everyone at the Convention.' JOHN HOVAN was standing with ELSIE and ANNE at the time. ELSIE said, 'It isn't funny, ANNE. You know I have been accused of being a stooge by someone on the North Shore and I am a little mad about it because the accusation of this woman, Mrs. FINKLE, was based on something the Party directed me to do.' ELSIE explained to ANNE that she wanted BOBBIE to bring it up at this District Committee meeting but he thought it should be handled first in their own section upon the return of SOL FISHER. She told ANNE when EVA MAMBER's son had been called before a Committee, EVA MAMBER, who had dropped out of the Party, did not want any known Party people coming to visit her. At the time the feeling was that we should keep up some kind of contact with EVA and work with her because at many times she was



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"Invaluable in working with us. ELSIE said that because she was not known on the North Shore as a Communist, she was the one selected to keep in close contact with EVA. She said this was with both the sanction and under the direction of the Party, and as a result of her association with EVA had attended several Jewish affairs, mostly at EVA's invitation. It was because she had attended some of these Jewish affairs that Mrs. FINKLE was suspicious of her. ELSIE told ANNE not to say anything because BOBBIE wanted to handle it at the Section meeting.

"Previous to the above, ELSIE had informed ARNOLD JOHNSON in MIKE's presence that she agreed with MIKE, but that she thought that along with the five ideas MIKE had projected we also ought to consider the question of international solidarity. She said she could not understand why everyone was always talking about needing a program, when basically as a Marxist-Leninist person, you always had a program in that you pushed for anything that would eventually lead to Socialism, such as housing, and other issues facing the people. These she said were all gains toward the final goal of Socialism. ARNOLD agreed with her and said that we do have a program.

"When the meeting reconvened MIKE injected that he wanted it understood that in the Hungarian situation he had been correct in his thinking ahead of everyone else in the area who wanted to wash their hands of it. He wanted it understood that he was for international solidarity, that this was basic Marxist-Leninism.

"JOHN HOVAN tried to bring up the issue of how we avoid a repetition of PENHA, and OTIS HOOD made the comment, 'You just have to face the thing. We have been an illegal party since 1951, and there is nothing you can do to prevent these things. If you are a Communist, you might just as well face the thing and act accordingly.'

"ELSIE asked for the floor and said she was in agreement with MIKE as to the type of Party needed. She said that so far as Socialism was concerned, she had no doubt about the final growth of Socialism. She said there were various movements taking place all over the world and she did not think anything was going to stop them -- one movement